APPENDIX I

[*Vide* Answer to starred question No. 436 on page 550.]

STATEMENT.

Names of Blocks selected for implementation of the Rural Works Programme during 1963–64.

Name of the district.	Name of the Block.
1 North Arcot	Chengam Pudupalayam Thandrampattu
2 South Arcot	Thyagadurgam Kallakurichi Sankarapuram Rishivandiyam
3 Chingleput	Poondi Uthukottai
4 Coimbatore	Bhavanisagar Talavadi Nambiyur
5 Kanyakumari	Munchira
6 Madurai	Thoppampatti Oddanchatram Palani
7 The Nilgiris	Ootacamund
8 Ramanathapuram	Mandapam Ramanathapuram Thiruppullani Mudukulathur Kadaladi Kamuthi
9 Salem	Harur Morappur Pappireddipatti
10 Thanjavur	Arantangi Avadayarkoil
11 Thiruchirappalli	Annavasal Viralimalai Keeranur
12 Tirunelveli	Ottapidaram Pudur Vilathikulam Kayathar

TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
TRUTH ALONE TRIUMPHS
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THE PROGRAMME AND MEMORANDUM OF INSTRUCTIONS.

1. *Object* : The main aims of the programme for utilisation of manpower available in rural areas during the agricultural slack seasons are that works should become available to all who are willing to work and secondly all available manpower should be utilised to the greatest extent possible for increasing the community assets. In the context of the need to increase agricultural production, schemes which tend to increase productivity of land should receive priority. The programme should be implemented during the slack season period of May–June 1963 and November 1963, March 1964.

2. *Location* : The thirty-five blocks selected are among the backward Blocks of the State with a marked degree of unemployment and under-employment and with a pressing need to provide employment opportunities during the slack season.

3. *Selection of villages in each Block* : The Panchayat Union Council concerned should select the villages in its area where the programme will be implemented. In making the selection the Panchayat Union Council should ensure that the villages are contiguous, that there is an adequate number of labourers who are willing to work at the wage rate specified below, that there is scope for taking up works of community interest or of agricultural benefit; and that the Panchayat concerned is agreeable to execute the scheme under proper supervision. The list of villages should be finalised by the Panchayat Union Council on the basis of above factors. Each Panchayat so selected should pass a resolution agreeing to abide by the various conditions of the programme.

4. *Preparation and approval of programme for each village* : After the list of villages is approved by the Panchayat Union Council, the Panchayat Union Commissioner will settle the exact period during which the programme will be taken up in individual village in relation to the agricultural practice and local exigencies. This should be done in consultation with the Panchayat President and the local villagers.

5. The detailed works programme should lay down the items of work to be done and the period allotted to each. It will be drawn up by the Panchayat Union Commissioner and in consultation with the block level technical staff. In some of the works, there may be a technical component such as, for instance, the fixing up of a sluice in a minor irrigation tank. In such cases, the technical part may be done by the department and its execution co-ordinated to the non-technical or earth work part of the programme.

6. The detailed works so drawn should be placed before a general meeting at which the President and members of the Panchayat, the Gramasevak, the Panchayat Union Commissioner, the concerned member of the Block Technical Staff and all the members of the

labour force will be present. Any revision suggested by the consensus of opinion at the meeting will be incorporated in the detailed programme and the programme suitably revised. The programme thus finalised will be taken as approved and final.

7. *Items of work* : The items of work to be taken up in the village concerned will be settled with reference to the felt needs of the village and what is capable of achievement during the period. Works which will create fresh community assets or lead to better exploitation and maintenance of existing assets will be taken up. In more specific terms the scope of the programme will include :—

(a) *Minor Irrigation* : This will comprise (i) the each work required to improve village irrigation tanks by deepening and by increasing their storage capacity, by desilting of tank beds and strengthening of tank bunds; (ii) the formation of small tanks either for regulating the supply of water to fields or for stabilising and the improving the water tank which will help supply position in the neighbouring irrigation wells; and (iii) the removal of silt weeds, etc., from channels supplying water to tanks or effecting drainage from the fields.

(b) *Construction of Community Irrigation Works* : These wells will be large sized irrigation wells capable of supplying water to the adjoining lands either public lands or private lands. In the case of the former category of lands, the Panchayat may raise plantation with the help of the irrigational facilities created. In the case of the latter category of lands, the Panchayat may regulate the distribution of water to private fields and fix and levy a charge thereof.

(c) *Panchayat Plantation* : Plantations are being raised by the Panchayats on public lands vsted in or entrusted to them, for fuel, fruit fodder and manuring purposes. Under this programme large size deep pits can be dug for planting seedlings in the village. Wells can be dug in these plantations. Live fences can also be put up.

(d) *Formation of village roads* : The formation of village roads and cart tracks can be taken up. Roads already laid can also be maintained.

(e) Digging of irrigation channels;

(f) Kudimaramath;

(g) Soil Conservation which may be taken up on the same basis as Panchayat Soil Conservation Scheme;

(h) Other schemes which will help increasing agricultural production.

8. *Execution and supervision of the programme* : The main responsibility for the supervision of the programme will be on the President and Members of the Panchayat and the Gramasevak of the concerned circle. They will exercise a daily watch on the progress of the work. The Panchayat Union Commissioner and the Extension Officers, chiefly and Union Engineer, the Education Extension Officer and the Extension Officer for Agriculture should

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frequently visit the villages where the works are being executed and ensure that the quality of work done is satisfactory. The Collector, the Revenue Divisional Officer, the Divisional Engineer, the District Agricultural Officer and the Assistant Engineer should also visit the villages as often as possible and give proper guidance in the implementation of the programme.

9. The technical responsibility for the execution of the works will rest on the Union Engineer, the Union Overseer wherever he is functioning and the Assistant Engineer (Highways and Rural Works). Though the works to be undertaken are of simple type, it is essential that proper estimates are prepared by the Overseer or the Union Engineer as the case may be depending on the value of the works in each case in accordance with the existing instruction in the matter. These technical officers should supervise the works during the day-to-day execution and check-measure them according to their existing powers and ensure that the quality of work turned out is satisfactory.

10. *Mode of execution* : In the rural works programme the intention is that the available manpower in the village should be utilised for productive purpose. It is, therefore, a programme including the whole community. Therefore, the work should *not be let* on tender to contractors. The Panchayat should consider it an institutional responsibility to provide employment to labour for creating community assets. Therefore, the work should be executed by the Panchayat Departmentally. The Panchayat should keep the registers for the purpose, including the cash register, the Bill Book, the Nominal Muster Roll, etc. The Extension Officer (Panchayat) and the Gramasevak of the concerned circle should guide the Panchayat President in maintaining these accounts and registers properly.

Wages and incentive.

11. *Wages and incentive* : The Rural Works Programme is designated mainly to provide employment to unutilised rural manpower during the agricultural slack season. In the process it is expected that community assets will be created or agricultural production will be increased, which finally benefit the community as a whole. Some inducement is still necessary to make the latter respond to a sense of collective responsibility. During the first series of project a wage of 12 annas per labourer per day was fixed to be partly paid in cash and partly utilised for providing a square meal to the labourer. This system generally succeeded in drawing a number of labourers to the scheme, who at the same time, appreciated ' community participation ' involved in the scheme. In the second series of projects only soil conservation works were taken up. As soil conservation was finally meant to benefit individual labourers, the system of payment of less than market wage was not adopted and was substituted by a scheme of beneficiaries sharing the cost of work. This question has been carefully examined with respect to the works to be taken up under the current series of

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projects. In view of the recent increase in agricultural wages it has been decided that the *wage of Rupee one per day* per labourer should be paid. This rate should not be exceeded in a village. The wage may be paid wholly in cash. If it is possible to arrange for provision of meals, part of the wage may be used in preparation and provision of meal. The discretion to institute this system of part payment of cash and provision of meal is left to the Panchayat Union Council concerned.

12. *Public contribution*: It will be seen that that in many Blocks market wage rate for agricultural labourer even during the slack season may be more than the rate permitted to be paid under the Rural Works Programme. The underlying objective is that the whole programme should be organised on the principle of 'Shramdan' with a view to appealing to the sense of collective responsibility of the villages. The payment of less than market wage rate provides for the element of public contribution which is expected in similar programmes. At the same time it is still desirable to expect an element of public contribution also for the work. In other words the value of work finally turned out should be more than the Government scheme of the work.

13. *Payment of wages*: It is necessary to make arrangements for the prompt payment and measurement of the work. Funds for the payment of cash wages and the supply of midday meals will be placed in advance at the disposal of the Panchayat President for one month at a time. He will utilise the funds to disburse the wages on a daily or weekly basis. Since the detailed works programme has been drawn up on the basis of a realistic out-turn, the fulfilment of each work in the allotted time will itself constitute a check-measurement. However, it would be necessary to have a periodical assessment of the pace of the work at the time of payment of wages. This will be done by the Panchayat President in consultation if necessary, with the concerned technical officer attached to the block.

14. *Cost of the programme*: The Planning Commission have allotted a sum of Rs. 29.75 lakhs for current as well as previous year's programme. Expenditure in each Block on this programme during the year 1963–64 should be restricted to Rs. 1 lakh. As the programme will be taken up in 15 select villages in each Block payment on work taken up in each village should not exceed Rs. 6,000. In each village where the work is taken up, it is desirable that a set of tools and implements is made available by the Panchayat. A sum not exceeding Rs. 500 per village may be utilised for the purpose. The tools and implements should be of the common type used by the labourer like the pich-axe, shovel and basket. The tools and implements should be kept in the custody of the Panchayat concerned. They should be brought to account in the Register of stock maintained by the Panchayat.

15. *Accounting Procedure*: Necessary instructions will be issued separately.